PUDUKKOTTAI STATE
NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU

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LECTURE CXXXVII.

DEATH KNELL FOR NAZI MYTHS.

(*Samuel Grafton.*)

We must not let the Germans forget for a minute that their theories are being tried along with their Armies. The Germans have got rid of their Jews, for example, but without getting rid of their troubles.

The murderous irrelevancy of anti-Semiticism is having its supreme test. Jewish blood has flowed from knives according to the specifications set down in the Horst Wessel song, and now what ?

According to the Horst Wessel doctrine, Stalingrad should have been captured ; there were no Jews in Germany in a position to keep the Germans from capturing the city. What's gone wrong with Mumbo Jumbo?

When France ran into military difficulties, we were treated to a thousand and one nights of oratory to the effect that her decline was due to social legislation, the 44-hour week and the fact that the French peasant had given up wearing woollen stockings and taken to disporting with blondes at Deauville. I bend ear now, most anxious to hear some one explain what Germany's difficulties are due to.

They cannot be due to the 44-hour week, because Germany did not have it. They cannot be due to blondes at Deauville, for murders have taken the place of merriment at Deauville these nights. They cannot be due to labour leaders of either the honest variety or the racketeering variety, for there are no labour leaders in Germany. Come, now, and let us have speeches.

A favourite Nazi myth is that the German armies were forced to retreat in 1918 because liberalism and democracy betrayed the country on the home front. Now, black reaction is in control on the home front, but the German armies are retreating again. It cannot be. How can the Germans retreat

after having purified the race, after having evolved a mystic union of blood and soil, after having established one Reich, one people, one Fuehrer? There are no "Democrats, Marxists or Jews" in control of the German Press, you get a bust in the nose if you open your mouth anywhere in Germany. Yet the German armies are running faster than in 1918. German women are in the kitchen, not in politics, and, look, it doesn't seem to make any difference. It is astounding.

All the massive irrelevancies of 20 years of reactionary obscurantism in European politics are going up in smoke. And Jews are dying, and who will be the new Jews to be flayed for the new defeat?

Some day we may even be grateful to the German people for having lived out these idiocies for us, for having conducted this experiment in correlated stupidity on our behalf.

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

6—3—43 to 12—3—43.

Russia.—Soviet strategy has been planned for all seasons—for thaw as well as frost. Consequently with the appearance of thaw impeding operations in the South the Russian offensive has been switched over to the centre where frost continues and the ground is hard.

In the central sector the first task is to iron out the German salient dangerously pointing towards MOSCOW, consisting of the triple hedge-hogs of RZHEV, GZHATSK and VYASMA. Of these the first two have already fallen. It happened thus. Marshal Timoshenko recently transferred from the south to the centre suddenly struck a blow at DEMYANSK, south of Lake Ilmen between STARAYA RUSSA and KHOLM and before the enemy had time to recover struck again and captured RZHEV and rapidly pushing forward further towards VYASMA took OLENINO, CHERTOVINO, GZHATSK (March 5) and SYCHEVKA(March 8). VYASMA—the third hedge-hog has also fallen. SMOLENSK the great German central base is in danger.

Another Russian offensive is developing south of MOSCOW between BRIANSK and KURSK to encircle OREL. As a first step SEVSK, 70 miles south of BRIANSK has been taken.

Further *south*, advance *west of* KHARKOV has slowed down for the moment owing to the weather. The roads are in an appalling state.

In the *Donbas region* under pressure of a German counter-offensive the Russians have evacuated KRASNOGRAD, LOZOVAYA, PAVLOGRAD, KRASNOARMEYSK, KRAMATORSKAYA, BAREVANKOVO, SLAVYANSK and LISICHANSK.

The Caucasus campaign has practically ended. All the territory has been recovered from the enemy except a small bridge-head on the Kerch Straits.

Tunisia.—Rommel's tactics are running true to form—it is becoming a gamble to forestall his opponents if he can. With inadequate forces he vainly tries to make up deficiency by mobility—by striking quickly in north, centre, and south depending on the element of surprise.

His opening gamble was for TEBESSA, the Allied base in the *centre*. Here, driven out of FERIANNA, KASSERINE and SBEITLA last week, he has been forced out of SIDI BOUZID and PICHON (March, 5) this week.

In the *south* Allied troops are closing the ring round Rommel, having taken MIDES, NEFTA, REDEYET and TOZEUR.

Both the attacks that Rommel launched against Gen. Montgomery's south flank have failed. The objective of his offensive was probably Jebel Saikra ridge east of Matmata Hills; but far from reaching it he has been hurled back behind the Mareth Line with the loss of 52 guns.

In the *northern* sector, Rommel's offensive has died down after his occupation of SEDJENANE.

Pacific.—The operations have been limited to air-raids, particularly on KISKA in the north Pacific and MUNDA, BUIN, KAHILI, BALLALE, VIRU, Tulagi ISLAND, KAIETA, ORO BAY, VIGA, WAU and REKATA BAY, in S. W. Pacific.

China.—Japanese offensives have been checked on all fronts and at certain points certain positions have also been regained. In Central CHINA the Japanese have been pushed back near NANCHANG; in Eastern CHINA they are reported to have been encircled and on the YUNNAN to have been held.

According to the latest reports Japanese forces on the northern bank of the Yangtze have forced the crossing of the river near Shashi and taken MITOSSU, YAOTOUPU, TOUHUTI and TIAOHUSANKOW.

Burma.—The following Allied raids are reported:

March, 3—RANGOON area including PAZUNDAUNG BRIDGE. Athlone Docks, Mahwagon Locomotive Ships, MAYMYO, SEGYI and KYAUKPADAUNG.

March, 4—AKYAB, RATHEDAUNG, KAMAL and YWATUNG.

March, 6—RANGOON, MOULMEIN, MYTINGE BRIDGE.

March, 8—MONYWA, MYINGYAN.

March, 9—KAMAING, MANYWET, WASAT, TINGPAIR, PROME, KANZAUK area.

In the past few days there has been some enemy infiltration along the forest ridge between KANZAUK and AUKTANGBYIN near RATHEDAUNG. The R. A. F. has attacked the positions with good results.

Miscellaneous.—M. Ismet Inonu has been unanimously re-elected President of the Turkish Republic.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS.

28—2—43 (Sunday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—
- **Enemy airfields** at MAUPERTIUS (France).
- **Factories** at HENGELO (Holland) and near LIEGE (Belgium).

NIGHT:—
- **The submarine** base at ST. NAZAIRE.
- **Western GERMANY** (12 Allied and 2 Axis planes lost).

NORTH AFRICA and the MEDITERRANEAN.
- **Targets** in MATEUR.
- **Landing grounds** in the GABES area.
- **Docks and warehouses** at CAGLIARI (Sardinia).
- **Ry.** between SFAX and SOUSSE.
- **The docks** at BIZERTA.

RUSSIA.
- **Air combats and grounded planes** all along the entire Front.

FAR EAST.
- **KISKA** (Aleutians).
- **MUNDA** area (N. Georgia).
- **Jap shipping** off BUIN.
- **Airfields** at KAHILA and BALLALE (Shortlands).
- **VILA** (Kolambangara Island).
- **A bridge** at TIANGZUP (Burma).
- **Buildings** at NSOPZUZ (Burma).

1—3—43. (Monday).

EUROPE.

NIGHT (19 Allied planes missing):—
- **BERLIN.**
- **Laying mines** in enemy waters.
- **NAPLES** (Italy).

NORTH AFRICA and the MEDITERRANEAN.
- **Railroad bridge** at LA HENCHA.
- **The docks** at BIZERTA.
- **The airfields** at PALERMO and COMISO (Sicily).
- **Shipping** off SICILY.

RUSSIA.
- **Air combats and aircraft on the ground** all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.
- **The airfield** at ALEXSHAFFEN.
- **Harbour** at WAINGAPOE.
- **The airfield** at SALAMAUA.
- **MUNDA** (N. Georgia).
- **The Railway terminus** at LASHIO.
- **Barracks rivercraft and vehicles** in northern BURMA.
- **Villages** in the AKYAB area.

2—3—43 (Tuesday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—
- **Railway and other targets** in Northern FRANCE and BELGIUM.

NIGHT:—
- **Laying mines** in enemy waters.
- **Objectives** in Western GERMANY.

NORTH AFRICA and the MEDITERRANEAN.
- **The ports** at TUNIS and LA GOULETTE.
- **MARETH** Line.
- **Enemy landing grounds** in the GABES area.
- **Vehicles** in the SFAX area.

RUSSIA.
- **Air combats and grounded aircraft** all over the Eastern Front.

FAR EAST.
- **Japanese convoy** in the HUON Gulf (all the 22 Jap ships in the convoy sunk; and 55 Japs planes shot down).
- **Airfields** at LAE.
- **MUNDA** (N. Georgisa).
- **GOKTEIK viaduct** between MANDALAY and LASHIO (Burma).
- **MYITKYINA.**
- **NSOPZUP** area.
- **River communications** on the IRRAWADDY near MANDALAY.
- **MAUNGDAW area** (Burma).

3—3—43 (Wednesday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—
- **Molybdenium mines** at KNABEN.
- **Enemy transport and other targets** in Northern FRANCE and HOLLAND.

NIGHT (10 Allied planes missing):—
- **The Naval bases** at HAMBURG.
- **An air base** in HOLLAND.

NORTH AFRICA and the MEDITERRANEAN.
- **Enemy road transport** in Northern TUNISIA.
- **Landing grounds** in the GABES area.
- **Enemy convoy** between SICILY and TUNISIA.

RUSSIA.
- **Air combats and grounded planes** all along the Russian Front.

FAR EAST.
- **KAHILI, BALLALE** and **VILA** (all in Solomons).
- **MUNDA** (N. Georgia).
- **Japanese supply vessels** on the MAYU River.
- **Road and rail transport** in the area between SEGYI and KYAUKPADAUNG (Burma).
- **Docks** in the RANGOON area.

4—3—43 (Thursday).

EUROPE.

DAY (14 Axis planes and 5 Allied planes lost):—
- **Marshalling yards** at HAMM (Germany).
- **The shipyards** at ROTTERDAM.
- **Railway centres** near LE MANS and VALENCIENNES.

NIGHT:—
- **Laying mines** in enemy waters.
- **Objectives** in western GERMANY.
- **The harbour** at NAPLES.

NORTH AFRICA and the MEDITERRANEAN.
- **Enemy vehicles** in the Southern sector of the TUNISIAN Front.
- **Objectives** at DJEDIDA.
- **Air combats** over the Northern Tunisian Front (2 Axis planes shot down).

RUSSIA.
- **Air combats and grounded aircraft** all over the Eastern Front.

FAR EAST.
- **Airfields** at LAE and SALAMAUA.
- **MUNDA** (N. Georgia).
- **BUIN, KAHILI** and **BALLALE** (Shortlands).
- **Villages** in the AKYAB area.
- **RATHEDAUNG** ((Burma).

5—3—43 (Friday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—
- **E-boats** off the DUTCH coast (2 E-boats sunk).

NIGHT:—

Laying mines in enemy coastal waters.

NORTH AFRICA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy vehicles in all the battle sectors.

Shipping off TUNISIA.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all along the Russian front.

FAR EAST.

MUNDA (N. Georgia).

BUIN (Solomons).

KISKA (Aleutians).

Villages in the AKYAB area ((Burma).

Patrols over the ARAKAN area and KATHA district.

Railway yard at THAZI (Burma).

6—3—43 (Saturday).

EUROPE.

DAY:—(5 allied planes lost).

The docks at BREST.

The submarine base at LORIENT.

NIGHT:—

Objectives in western GERMANY.

NORTH AFRICA and the MEDITERRANEAN.

Enemy vehicles in the battle areas in TUNISIA.

Landing grounds in the **GABES** area.

Railway between SOUSSE and SFAX.

RUSSIA.

Air combats and grounded aircraft all over the Russian front.

FAR EAST.

CAPE GLOUCESTER (N. Britain).

The harbour at RABAUL (N. Britain).

GASMTA.

VIRU harbour (N. Georgia).

TULAGI Island.

Shipping in the harbour at RANGOON.

The docks at MOULMEIN.

The villages in the AKYAB area.

River craft in the KALADAN River area.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

1—3—43 (Monday).

BRITAIN.

ENGLISH CHANNEL (2 German planes shot down).

NORTH AFRICA.

TRIPOLI.

RUSSIA.

Russian position in the DONETZ Front.

2—3—43 (Tuesday).

BRITAIN.

South-East coast of ENGLAND.

NORTH AFRICA.

Allied position in Northern TUNISIA.

RUSSIA.

KRAMATASKAYA.

FAR EAST.

CHITTAGONG area.

3—3—43 (Wednesday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area.

THAMES ESTUARY.

A few places in East ANGLIA.

NORTH AFRICA.

ALGIERS (Algeria).

FAR EAST.

The airfield at GUADALCANAR.

4—3—43 (Thursday).

BRITAIN.

No air activity.

NORTH AFRICA.

Forward positions of the 8th army in TUNISIA.

FAR EAST.

An airfield in the CHITTAGONG area (No bombs dropped).

5—3—43 (Friday).

BRITAIN.

No air attack anywhere in BRITAIN.

NORTH AFRICA.

8th army's frontal position in TUNISIA.

FAR EAST.

Airfield in GUADALCANAR (Solomons).

6—3—43 (Saturday).

BRITAIN.

No information available.

RUSSIA.

LISCHIANSK.

7—3—43 (Sunday).

BRITAIN.

LONDON area (only an alert).

HOME COUNTIES.

NORTH AFRICA.

The harbour at TRIPOLI.

RUSSIA.

Russian army advancing in the central Russian Front.

FAR EAST.

No information.

SIDE LIGHTS.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT. BERLIN's attempts to minimise the German defeats in the eastern front are, to say the least, ridiculous. BERLIN's radios speak of Russians having got 'stuck in the mud', referring to the thaw in the south. It is a simple trick to make the Germans forget the Russian Victories. But, let us remember what the

Russian General, Zaitev said a few days ago—that frost as well as thaw had been foreseen and taken into account in the Russian plan of operations. The German weak spots are distributed all over the eastern front. When they check a break through at one place the Russians break through at another. The capture of DEMYANSK and the offensive south of Lake Ilmen prove it. If the battle of the Donetz is fought in mud and that of the Kuban in slush, the battle of the Centre is fought in hard-frost. When the snow melts in the centre the south will dry up. There will be no rest for Hitler. RZHEV proves that thaw in the south is no obstacle to a Russian Victory in the centre.

The latest proof of the growing weakness of the Germans in RUSSIA is furnished by the transfer to RUSSIA of two divisions of Waffen S. S. The S. S. is the Nazi Party's private army kept in reserve.

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THE TUNISIAN FRONT. The Axis offensive has petered out in all sectors—north, centre and south. Allied forces at the centre are pushing south; in the north Allied pressure is maintained; in the south Rommel has been hurled back into the Mareth Line. Enemy strategy, as the *Times* has well described it, is a desperate attempt 'to compensate for lack of numbers by mobility, swiftly striking each convergent adversary in turn'. So Rommel first struck hard in the centre but was driven back owing to insufficient force; then in the north; and last in the south with the same result—Rommel can delay but not prevent a final Allied Victory.

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HARA-KIRI. Once again, as we briefly reported in our News Summary last week, JAPAN has suffered a signal defeat in the South West Pacific—this time, not in the Coral, but in the Bismarck sea—or to be more particular, in the Vitiaz Strait—a narrow stretch of water between NEW GUINEA and NEW BRITAIN—nowhere more than 40 miles wide and in one place 10 miles narrow. This is the Suicide Alley in which a hundred and thirty six Allied air-craft hurled 226 tons of bombs and scored 133 hits and blew up 10 enemy warships, and 12 transports carrying 15,000 troops and where the Japanese lost all their men and all their 150 planes, in a hopeless hara-kiri. There was an important reason for the Japanese to take the risk. It is the growing strength of the Allies in AUSTRALIA against which they sent their present convoy to reinforce their bases at SALAMAUA, LAE and FINSCHAVEN.

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THE U-BOAT Axis broadcasts continue to magnify the U-boat menace and spread mendacious reports. The ROME Radio, for instance, in its English broadcast has announced that 'the month of February has again brought extremely heavy shipping losses for the United Nations.' Nothing can be farther from the truth. On March 3

Mr. A. V. Alexander announced in the House of Commons that 'in February the results were the best' and that the gap between German U-boat production and Allied U-boat destruction was 'being reduced.' The enemy too had suffered enormously in shipping losses. So far his total losses had been 5 million tons sunk and another 3 million tons surely damaged. The Allied losses of the past 3 months were less than that of the corresponding months of last year. In GREAT BRITAIN the production of surface escorts has been given priority over every other shipping production. BRITAIN's Seafire which is the world's best naval fighter is being constructed in large numbers.

AMERICA too is taking great steps to meet the menace. More than 200 types of escort vessels are being constructed. According to details now released by the U. S. Navy Department the newest type escort vessel is a destroyer of 1,300 tons, provided with armament heavy enough to enable her to out-shoot the enemy submarine, and with anti-aircraft guns, depth charges and torpedoes.

The latest news (March 8) received from the headquarters of the Anti-Submarine Command of the U. S. Army Air Forces is heartening. It says, 'Submarine warfare may be at the turning point; the number of Axis submarines lost has been high; since September 9 not a ship has been sunk by submarines in the 1,000,000 square miles of Atlantic waters which were formerly the area of operations of the First Bomber Command.'

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AIR RAIDS—BRITISH AND NAZI.

BERLIN has been raided 70 times already—56 times by the R. A. F. night bombers, twice by the R. A. F. day-bombers and 12 times by the Soviet night bombers. Of them all, we understand, the R. A. F. raid on last Monday night was the heaviest yet and the most concentrated. All the bombers that took part in the expedition were four-engined and the bomb-load included 8,000 pounders as well as 4,000 pounders, and some tens of thousands of incendiaries dropped in a continuous shower. Over 100 'first-class' fires were started though the raid lasted only half an hour. BERLIN is not only the head quarters of the Nazi administration but a great railway and industrial centre.

On March 3, again another big city—this time the home of the U-boat building industry—HAMBURG, with its 20 miles of quays and 110 metres of docks, and with a population of 1,700,000 people, was bombed.

Other heavy raids have preceded—on places as far apart as WILHELMSHAVEN, NUREMBERG, LORIENT and ST. NAZAIRE.

Thus the long-promised round-the-clock bombing is at last under way. Allied air superiority is now so well established that we may expect hereafter a regular schedule of, say, American raids by day and British raids by night. The area of attack will be extended not only in time but in space.

The burden of defence for the enemy must proportionately increase. In the recent BERLIN attack, for instance, a pilot who spent 15 minutes inside the defence ring observed that BERLIN's flak (anti-aircraft fire) was inadequate. COLOGNE again, which suffered heavily in the 1,000-plane raid of last May, resulting in the evacuation of 250,000 people and the destruction of about 300 factories which had taken 9 months to rebuild has now been again reduced to ruins by the raid of February 14.

Thus the question that Goering has to answer is where GERMANY should concentrate its defence; whether in the north, or in the south, or in the west or in the centre, whether the U-boat bases should be strengthened at the expense of the capital and the industrial cities in the heart of GERMANY or vice versa. To defend everywhere would be to spread out and thin out the available defence over a wide area and thus weaken every centre. BERLIN's defective flak has already shown this weakness.

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GERMANY'S REPRISAL RAID. The so called 'reprisal raid' that German planes made on the LONDON area on March 3 was in comparison a farce and in fact, a fiasco. While BERLIN was still burning as a result of the recent attack some 30 or 40 enemy bombers flew towards the LONDON area and made two raids. Only in the second raid a few reached LONDON. The damage was nowhere extensive; the A. A. barrage was the fiercest ever put up and three of the enemy bombers were destroyed.

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MATTERS INDIAN.

(1) SOUTH INDIA'S AIR DEFENCE. Speaking to a group of enquirers at BANGALORE on March 6, Air Commodore P. H. Mackworth gave details of the aerial defences of South INDIA now completed. This part of the country could now not only protect itself from aggression but also give a hot reception to the invader if he came. Air-fields now studded the whole area and because planes were not seen in fleets in these air fields the man in the street should not make the mistake that the preparations were incomplete. In modern strategy air-fields would be constructed and kept ready with supplies and ground-personnel, to which planes would be flown only according to military necessity. Many of the South Indian air-squadrons had already had their practice in flying to these air-fields and familiarising themselves with the territory in which they may be called upon to operate. Indian airmen made efficient pilots; many of them had earned the D. F. C.

The Commodore added that though the danger of an attack had diminished a sharp look-out was still necessary against surprises.

(2) A STERN REMINDER. Answering criticisms on the Government of INDIA's actions during the recent disturbances, Sir Reginald Maxwell told the Central Assembly on March 8 that if in the course of the disciplinary measures the Government took, some innocent persons had to suffer along with the guilty the responsibility for it lay with the promoters of the disorders and not with the Government. It was the duty of the Government to use repression in certain circumstances. Crimes must be repressed. Force must be met by force.

He also declared that 'with its responsibility not only to INDIA but to the Allied cause the Government could not, and would not permit activities designed to interfere with the successful prosecution of the War. Nor could political or any other motives be regarded as an extenuation of offences deliberately calculated to impair the war resistance of the country or undermine order'.

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(3) INDIA'S WAR FINANCE. People who complain of the deficit budget introduced last week in the Central Assembly would do well to remind themselves of the vital purpose for which the money is needed but should further remember the great relief afforded to INDIA by the present British payments in sterling to INDIA—an arrangement which has not only saved INDIA from a war debt but enabled her to repay a debt of 60 years' standing arising out of the investment of British Capital in INDIA. This great change has been brought about by BRITAIN paying for every article of Indian manufacture used by the Indians in the Burmese Campaign. Accordingly INDIA has been able to clear her debt besides accumulating an asset for the future. INDIA's war-time gains already amount to £ 607 million sterling—a fact which people who talk of 'imperial exploitation' may well consider and ponder over.

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(4) U. S. LEASE-LEND TO INDIA. A special Report issued on March 5, by the U.S. Office of War Information shows that the Lease-Lend aid to INDIA from March 1941—the date of its inception to January 1, 1943 totalled 295,501,494 dollars in value. It included improvements to Indian harbours, railways, air-fields and mines and purchase of machine-tools, raw-materials such as steel and finished products ranging from flash lights to locomotives. As a base for supplies to CHINA, INDIA played an important part.

In reverse, 300 mills were working in INDIA to supply the American Army with uniforms. AMERICA was also drawing upon British stores of ammunition and food in INDIA and obtaining fuel and supplies for her ships in Indian ports.

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THE TENTH U. S. ARMY AIR FORCE. AMERICA's part in the defence of INDIA and the recovery of BURMA during February was reviewed by General Clayton Bissell at

NEW DELHI on March 7. He revealed that preparations were now complete to continue the operations even during the coming monsoon. In February the Force had carried out 490 sorties and 50 photographic reconnaisance missions dropping 400 tons of bombs, on enemy installations. On February 23 and 25 the Force defended Assam against two Japanese raids, in the first of which 28 Japanese planes were either destroyed or damaged. In the second raid the enemy's loss could not be estimated as he rapidly withdrew. The Japanese raids in Assam were useful in the sense that they helped the Americans to gain experience and confidence. During the month the force kept a steady pressure on the enemy in Burma, particularly in the RANGOON area and on communications, Railway stock and key-bridges. It is significant that during the whole of February no Japanese air force would accept combat from the U. S. Task Force in CHINA.

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THE ARAKON FRONT. Here both sides are jockeying for position before the rains set in. In about 6 weeks the country will be deluged with some 200 inches of rainfall. Malaria is already taking a heavy toll on both sides and this will increase in the monsoon season. The transport of supplies along the water-logged roads will be a major difficulty.

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THE BURMESE POSITION. It would also appear that the invasion of BURMA and the re-opening of the BURMA Road may be delayed by the approaching monsoon.

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CHINESE POSITION. While CHINA's fight is part of the common fight, the loss of the BURMA Road, as Lord Cranborne has pointed out, inevitably restricts transport, especially, of heavy material. It is easy to say that 1,000 air transport would meet the situation but it is doubtful if so many of these air-craft exist. Supplies to CHINA are being built up in INDIA, ready to be sent according to transporting capacity. Every effort is also being made to open new land-routes. Allied operations in the S. W. Pacific were relieving Japanese pressure on CHINA.

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BRITAIN'S ARMY WEEK was inaugurated on February 28. Praises have been sung often of the R. A. F. and justifiably, because it saved BRITAIN and the world in a great crisis, and of the Royal Navy because on its successful policing of the seas the whole Allied strategy rests, but we feel the Army has not come in for its due share of tribute. The Army Week celebration is therefore timely. The British Army has flung back in Goebbels's teeth his gibe that ENGLAND would fight to the last Frenchman or Australian. EL ALAMEIN, the 2,000 mile pursuit of Rommel and the extinction of the whole Italian Empire are the answer to Goebbels' slander.

Let us remember that the Eighth Army is not the only British Army. As Sir James Grigg said, ' we have other armies all over the world to show that the 8th Army, for all its achievements, is not unique. These other armies are hoping to emulate not only their own brothers but the Valiant Red Army as well'.

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WINGS FOR VICTORY WEEK. was inaugurated on March 6, the object being to raise £ 132,000,000 for air craft production out of savings. The collections had reached £ 80,000,000 on March 9.

WAR AGAINST ALL GERMANS.

PEOPLE CANNOT BE DISSOCIATED FROM RULERS.

(*Samuel Grafton*)

Some one asked me whether we ought to consider ourselves as warring against the German people or only their rulers. The answer is that we are warring against all who are warring against us.

Hitler is warring against us, and the German workman making artillery shells is warring against us, and even the sweet German jungfrau, daintily stuffing machine-gun belts, is warring against us. Therefore, we have no choice in premises : we are warring against all of them.

But cannot a line be drawn between the German people and their bosses? Yes, it can be, but only the German people can draw it, by ceasing to make artillery shells and ceasing to stuff machine-gun belts. They can draw it, in a word, by revolution. Short of that, a line cannot be drawn.

To give any German workman hope that we will treat him with kindness even if he goes on refilling flame throwers until the armistice, is merely to encourage him to go on refilling flame throwers until the armistice. Shall we draw a line between a man who refills flame throwers while hating Hitler, and a man who refills flame throwers while loving Hitler? That would be a line written in water; the only line we can draw is between the German who refills flame throwers and the German who throws them in his boss's face.

To say to the German people, we "understand, we sympathize" that even though they seem to be doing their best to try to kill us, we know that their hearts are not really in it, only reduces the pressure for German revolution. It takes away from the average German any responsibility for German policy. It sets him free of consequences in a world which his country has set afire. It makes him the juvenile of history, the only man in the world who is unanswerable for work done by his own hands.

To question whether we should love or hate the Germans has only one fair, accurate answer. We will love them when they make themselves lovable. But it is not liberalism, it is sentimentalism to treat them as incompetents, in which our attitude remains the same no matter what they do. That merely issues them a licence to do nothing.

But what shall a poor German boy do when he is ordered to stuff a dozen Poles into an execution chamber and suffocate them? Shall he commit suicide? Yes if necessary, and perhaps kill an officer first. There are no velvet cushions on which the German people can sit out the decade.

The whole German people are our enemies until they drop their weapons against us. They do not need to do that on any specific Friday morning. Of course, a revolution needs to be tactically sound, and a premature or spotty revolution can be worse than none. On the other hand, the German people must not be encouarged to hope that they can delay the process until after the war, and that the consequences then will be precisely the same as if they had not delayed it, and had behaved with brilliant clarity and full democratic understanding. Why open an escape valve of sentimentalism through which the revolutionary process can evaporate? Why treat Germans as if they alone are a people without a problem and without a task?

To the German people we must say: we draw no lines among you. You must draw the lines. We are not interested in what goes on in the backs of your minds; we are interested in overt acts for freedom or against it. We draw no lines in France. The French themselves draw lines between the de Gaulle French and the Vichy French. Shall we be more "understanding" of Hitler Germany than of the Vichy French, and shall we excuse Germans from the racking, terrible decisions which every French peasant has to make?

It is precisely because I believe in democracy that I do not believe in a doctrine of irresponsible peoples. That is Hitler's doctrine even when it is served up with liberalistic whipped cream on it.

A NATION OF DISILLUSIONED CYNICS.

(*W. A. Sinclair.*)

There has been a most remarkable tone in German Home propaganda of late. Ten weeks ago I was beginning to suspect that this change was, in fact, taking place. Since then this new tone has been practically standard. It runs uniformly through all Nazi Home propaganda. The Nazi Government is now appealing to the German people on the most crudely materialistic lines. The difference from the fantastically ideological propaganda of 1940 is remarkable. During the last few months the uniform tone of all Nazi Home propaganda, including the speeches of the Propaganda Minister himself, has been that Germany is not fighting about ideals or ideologies but is fighting for material gains only and that the way to get them is to take them from other people.

Goebbels himself said in his last speech at Munich: 'We aren't fighting for lofty ideals...........more important things are at stake: iron, oil, and wheat.' The impression you get if you listen to any one of the Nazi Home propagandists at the moment (I mean the impression you get from voice and manner, as well as from what is said) is that he is speaking as one disillusioned cynic talking knowingly to other disillusioned cynics. These propagandists are saying to the German people that they must go on fighting because if they don't they will be cold and hungry; and they are also saying that being warm and well-fed and comfortable is all that really matters, and that ideals are humbug. It is a very remarkable change.

WHAT HITLER SAYS ABOUT IT.

When I detected the first signs of this coming change in the tone of German Home propaganda I was somewhat perplexed. Hitler's own theory of propaganda was, you know, quite the opposite of this. He said in *Mein Kampf* that the only way to keep the German people going was to make them believe that they were fighting for ideals, and he said that in the last war as soon as the German people ceased to believe they were fighting for ideals they collapsed. His actual words were: 'As long as the German people still thought they were fighting for ideals they held out; when they were made only to fight for their daily bread, they preferred to give in.' Hitler then went on to write that the German statesmen of 1918 were wrong in their policy of telling the Germans that they were fighting only for their daily bread. He said: 'These statesmen never grasped the fact that when a man starts fighting for economic motives only he does all he can to avoid death, since death would for ever rob him of the reward of his fight.' That is what Hitler wrote in 1924.

I wondered at first whether Goebbels was going off on his own on this materialistic-line, contrary to Hitler's propaganda principles. But things don't happen like that in Nazi Germany. If that materialistic tone had appeared for one week only it might have been a temporary vagary of Dr. Goebbels' alone, but a change in the whole tone of propaganda could not take place and be kept up for months without Hitler's approval. As the weeks have gone by I have become convinced that Hitler as well as Goebbels now think that the only appeal that will have any effect on the German people is this simply materialistic one.

This, for a time at least, did work. The young Nazis I used to know in Germany before the war, and the Nazi soldiers and airmen who were taken prisoner by us in 1940 and 1941, were fanatics. Hitler had succeeded in producing what he wanted to produce. But, unfortunately for him, the process does not stop there. Human nature is not like clay; it doesn't simply stay in whatever shape you pat it into; it goes on developing on its own. If you bring up boys and girls, men and women, as the Nazis have brought up the German people for the last ten years, then you can bring them to a condition of passionate, enthusiastic, zestful fanaticism. But they don't stay like

that. That passes, and instead they come to have a feeling of futility, and they end as completely disillusioned cynics without standards of any kind, except the crudest materialistic ones. This seems to be what is happening now in Nazi Germany. All the evidence I have been able to accumulate from broadcast propaganda, from newspapers, from neutral travellers in Germany, and from other sources, confirms this.

BRITAIN'S HOME FLEET NEVER CAUGHT NAPPING.

CORNERSTONE OF SEA POWER.

(*The Liverpool Daily Post.*)

The real cornerstone of Britain's sea power is Admiral Sir John Tovey's Home Fleet.

That fleet consists of capital ships, aircraft-carriers and cruisers with destroyer, submarine and minesweeping flotillas. Though based at Scapa Flow in the Orkneys, the fleet as a whole is never there. For its mission is at sea—in the "northern waters."

It is perhaps remarkable that so little is known or heard of the keystone of our whole sea power structure. Few even know the name of the Commander-in-Chief. Its ships are never seen by the public and only a few of them very occasionally appear in the news. But on their unseen power every naval or combined operation in both Atlantic Oceans and the Arctic and even the western Mediterranean depends for its success.

Our convoys in the Atlantic and round the Cape, our blockading squadrons and the North Sea patrols, all our mine laying and minesweeping operations in enemy waters are carried out under their cover. They escorted our troop convoys to North Africa and covered their landings from attack by the Italian fleet. And Admiral Tovey's heavy squadrons are always within close call of each Arctic convoy to Russia.

For nearly three years powerful German surface fleets lurked in chief Norwegian fiords—the 40,000 ton battleship *Bismarck* and the *Tirpitz;* two powerful armoured ships, *Admiral Scheer* and *Lutzow*, the battle cruisers *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*, three heavy 8 inch gun cruisers of the *Hipper* class and several 6 inch gun cruisers—all with their destroyers and escort flotillas.

Once and once only four of those ships got out into the Atlantic—the *Bismarck*, the *Scharnhorst*, the *Gneisenau* and the *Prinz Eugen*. The *Bismarck* never returned. The *Scharnhorst* and the *Gneisenau* were bottled up at Brest for nine months before they escaped home with damage that took yet another nine months to repair.

Why are these German ships kept based at Trondheim, Narvik, Tromso and Bergen? There are several good reasons. Until the United Nations forestalled him, Hitler for long had his eyes on Dakar and Casablanca. At those Norwegian bases, his ships were best placed to set out secretly with an expeditionary force but the blockade of our Home Fleet was relentless. Gibraltar he also coveted but that lay by the same blockaded route.

In Russia, especially since the last winter, Hitler saw his greatest danger and ships were based on the very flank of her vital supply routes from Britain and America. If his powerful surface fleet could have waylaid them undetected, they could have wiped out each convoy and escort force in a couple of hours or less, but Admiral Tovey's heavy ships were never caught napping.

And in that most vital battle of all—the battle of the Atlantic—a couple of the *Hipper* class cruisers could destroy more ships in a week than U-boat packs would sink in several months—if they could get there and attack our convoys and escorts unmolested by the Home Fleet's heavy ships.

POSITION IN TUNISIA BRIGHTENS.

EFFECT OF ROMMEL'S PUNCH OVERCOME.

In Africa the position is much brighter now than it was a few days ago. We have seen a definite repulse of the enemy's ominous thrust into the Allies' flank, a thrust which menaced the communications in northern Tunisia.

It seems likely that Rommel was led to over-estimate his chances and overplayed his hand to pursue his initial success too far—with the result that he may have had more loss than gain in the final stage of his advance, north of Kasserine and Sbeitla.

Although Rommel managed to evade the Eighth Army's pursuit, to escape from Egypt with a larger proportion of his force than seemed likely or was anticipated, his situation is inherently weak. He is like a light-weight caught between two heavy weights. By dancing in and out and relying on superior agility, he may be able to put in some shrewd punches before he is cornered.

He momentarily doubled up his other opponent with a blow in midriff. The punch achieved results out of proportion to the slight strength behind it. But a repetition of such a result can only be expected if his opponents are inordinately clumsy. And the general advantage that might ensue from superior mobility on the ground is increasingly impaired by the handicap that all mobile ground forces tend to suffer when faced with hostile superiority in the air. It cramps its effective movement at every turn.

OCCUPATION OF RABAUL PROVES EXPENSIVE TO JAPANESE.

(*The New York Times*).

Of all the hundreds of cities seized by Japan in the Pacific, the great base at Rabaul on New Britain proved the most expensive to occupy.

As a town, Rabaul was not worth much. Volcanic eruptions have made it precarious as a peacetime capital. But the harbour gave it a strategic value for the Japanese. It was in this harbour that its conquerors suffered most. Our Navy says that the hulks of 46 ships, totalling 308, 600 tons, now lie there. Twelve more are known to have been sunk. Twentysix others were damaged and put out of service. There was no such destruction as that even in the harbours of Tobruk and Benghazi.

Allied raids on Rabaul have now passed the hundred mark. Recent flights by Australian and American bombers, which have been stepped up to almost a nightly schedule, have been dropping 50 tons of explosives at a time. The fires which have been left burning have been seen 150 miles away. The ruins of these shore installations plus at least 150 defending planes shot down and 84 wrecked ships, add up to a stiff enemy bill at Rabaul.

? CO-PROSPERITY ?

Rising Sun Sucks All Dry......

What happens when the Japanese occupy a country? What changes take place? How is the population treated?

An Intelligence Officer, in possession of a patchwork of information obtained—often at great risk—from enemy-occupied countries, has been able to weave a complete picture.

The fact which stands out is that the Japanese Army works to a standardized plan in its conduct towards the countries it conquers.

The first few days following the occupation are the worst. In this period, the Japanese soldiers are allowed free licence. There are two reasons for this. In the first place it is regarded as a reward to the soldiers for their victory. Secondly it has the effect of terrifying the civilians.

This is followed by a period of organised and official repression and confiscation. The object of this is to exploit the available resources to the fullest extent possible for the benefit of Japan.

No considerations of humanity are allowed to enter into this, and the Japanese Army shows a complete disregard for the accepted rules of war.

The results in every case are a great dimunition of trade; and an increasingly high cost of living, unemployment, poverty and food shortage.

MODERN CRUSOE OF GUADALCANAR REMAINED TO SPY ON JAPS.

REMARKABLE STORY OF BRITISH COMMISSIONER.

(*The Daily Express.*)

The remarkable story of Dick Crofton Horton, the British "King of the Solomons", who stayed on in Guadalcanar to spy on the Japanese is now revealed.

Horton, the 27-year-old Commissioner of Guadalcanar, played an important part in making the recapture of the island possible.

Besides taking tinned food into the jungle, when the Japanese came, he also took his radio transmitter. One night, somewhere in Australia, they picked up a weak but audible message from Horton. Calmly, as if he were telegraphing Christmas greetings, he told exactly what had been happening on Guadalcanar.

His information was valuable because there had been a black-out of all news from that area since the Japanese had seized the island after the battle of the Coral Sea.

From then on Horton was broadcasting nearly every night. By day he would trek to some mountain which overlooked the Japanese encampments. By night he would send his radio report to the Headquarters.

Several times he narrowly escaped being captured, but in the two months during which he passed on vital information to the Allies, the enemy never quite caught up with him. From his reports, maps, hitherto non-existent were prepared of the Japanese camps and fortifications and of the great airfield, now known as the Henderson airfield, which was only half finished when the American marines landed. Soon after the Americans landed, Horton came striding out of the jungle sunburned and with a luxuriant beard.

With 10 local policemen, and 10 released prisoners, he had ruled his diminished population from whatever jungle grove seemed safest to him.

They lived on carefully rationed tinned food and when that ran short on whatever they could gather from the jungle. "I am certainly glad to see you", he said to the marines, who marvelled that whereas his clothes were ragged, his shoes absent, he had kept his red epaulettes, marks of his authority, intact.

TURKEY REJOICES AT ITALIAN EXIT FROM TRIPOLI.

(*Leonard Kirschen*).

Nearly a quarter of a century ago Tripoli was Turkish. In 1911 the Italians captured the port and started working their way along the coast. Turkey was on the eve of the Balkan war and lost Tripoli. But it was not forgotten. In this country there are still hundreds of Turkish refugees and their descendants from Tripoli. Nearly every middle-aged active Turkish

officer has fought in the Tripolitanian campaign. The fact that the Italians have lost Tripoli and have been chased out of their last remaining North African possession is like balsam to the wounds which had never healed.

The Italian exit from Tripoli means a great deal to Turkey. It has, in the first place, already restored the equilibrium in the Mediterranean so much upset after the fall of France. It has restored 70 per cent of Eastern Mediterranean security and 100 per cent of the security of the Suez Canal, through which Turkey's supplies are now pouring in. It has improved Turkey's strategical position in the south, because both Cyprus and Syria have no strategical meaning to the Axis now that Rommel has reversed gear at high speed.

Two menaces have now been removed from Turkey: the German threat to Egypt and the threat to Turkey's backdoor, the Persian frontier. These dangers had given all Turkish defence preparations an aspect of feverish haste. It seemed a race against time. Now that supplies are pouring into Turkey through secure communication channels at high speed and in increasing volume, the strategical position has improved beyond expectation.

Turkey is just beginning to round the corner and reap the fruits of her neutrality. But in all Turkish reactions the initiated observer of Turkish events detects an almost imperceptible note of soberness. Turkey thinks that she has not yet the right to lean back and relax.

RESEARCH FOR LARGER FOOD SUPPLIES.

GRANTS FOR SOWING BETTER RICE.

REPORT OF I. C. A. R.

February 26.

Several schemes to help to increase India's food supplies were financed in 1941—42 by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, whose report for the year has just been published. In Madras, Bengal, the United Provinces and Orissa grants were made for the multiplication and distribution of improved varieties of rice yielding about 10 to 20 per cent more than local varieties, and it is expected 15 lakhs of acres will be sown with them by 1944. To reduce the loss of food grains in storage a bulletin on the pests of stored grains was put in hand, and studies of the storage pests and diseases of jowar, the poor man's food, were sanctioned at the Imperial Agricultural Research Institute and regional stations in Madras, the Punjab, the Central Provinces, Bihar and Hyderabad. The Council also initiated co-ordinated research on pulses and millets at various centres.

Research on fruit preservation led to the production of a satisfactory lemon-barley water, the use of orange peel as a candied product and the preparation of mango juices. In the Baluchistan fruit canning and preserving laboratory, canning was done on a large scale and methods evolved for drying apricots, peaches and tomatoes.

A number of village projects were sanctioned. These aim at getting all the cultivators in a village to adopt improved methods of farming all round.

At the Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology successful efforts were made to produce canewax and golden syrup. Golden syrup is needed for the services and canewax replaces imported waxes in leather and furniture polishes.

Methods to check the damage to hides and skins by ticks and warble flies were studied at the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute and in Bombay. Results obtained in the control of warbles with derris dressing led the Council to sanction funds for the control of warbles on a field scale in the Punjab. Since the fall of Malaya and Java, imports of derris root have ceased and the possibilities of growing derris in the humid regions of India are being studied.

To improve the milk supply of towns and cities the Council considered a scheme to tackle the problems of production, transport and processing. The Council indicated how provincial and State Governments might check the adulteration of ghee.

Proposals for colouring vanaspati are being considered.

Efforts have been made to discover suitable methods of preserving fish, other than canning and cold storage, and improved methods of producing honey. A central Bee-Keeping Research Station at Jeolikote (U. P.), with a sub-station at Izatnagar, was sanctioned.

To produce white and pure wool the Council has financed sheep breeding schemes in Madras, Bombay, the Punjab, Bihar, Mysore, Kashmir and Baluchistan. At the laboratories attached to some of these farms fleeces are analysed for fibre length, diameter, lustre, etc., on the basis of which culling and selection for further breeding are done. The yield of farm animals has been raised to 2 to 6 lb. per animal as against 0.5 to 1.5 lb. per village sheep.

Research on animal nutrition in Madras, Bengal, the United Provinces, Bihar, the Punjab and at the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute has given useful information which will lead to the computation of economically balanced rations for village cattle.

Veterinary Investigation Officers of the Council study animal diseases and pests throughout India. Teams of officers have been appointed in several provinces and States to work on poultry diseases and to save the poultry and egg industry from epidemics.

TROOPS, LIKE WHOLESOME TONIC, WILL INVIGORATE INDIA.

ADVANTAGES THAT PAVE THE ROAD TO COUNTRY'S GREATNESS.

Syed Miran Mohammed Shah, Speaker of the Sind Legislative Assembly.

" Over a million of our men who would ordinarily have lived the meagre life of the villager, have been hardened by daily exercise and training, and strengthened by good food in healthy surroundings. They will be the leaven of India's future manhood.

"These men undergo a carefully thought-out training programme. They are given daily physical exercise by expert instructors. Their food is plentiful and body-building. Their health is carefully looked after.

"Rifle-drill, and route-marches, assault courses and hard manœuvres make their bodies supple and energetic, while instructions in reading and writing Urdu and English, and lectures on world affairs, develop their minds.

"All this training of our men is definitely going to make for a better India. And this is one of the reasons why I would urge our men to enlist. The all-important reason is our determination to win, for without victory we can have no plans for the future.

"Victory is now in sight though the road may still be hard. Let us bring the day nearer by our concentrated efforts and in achieving our great purpose we will at the same time obtain many advantages that will pave our country's road to greatness and leadership."

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE NATIONAL WAR FRONT BUREAU.

PROGRAMME.

LECTURE CXXXVII. (*Batch 2.*)

13- 3-43	Municipal Office.	6.00	p.m.
14- 3-43	Kudumiyamalai ..	7.00	,,
,,	Parambur ...	7.30	,,
15- 3-43	Vengalur ...	7.00	,,
,,	Konapattu ...	7.30	,,
16- 3-43	Nachchandupatti.	7.00	,,
,,	Virachchilai ...	7.30	,,
17- 3-43	Kodumbalur ...	7.00	p.m.
,,	Viralimalai ...	7.30	,,
18- 3-43	Kalamavur ...	7.00	,,
,,	Nallur ...	7.30	,,
19- 3-43	Panayappatti ...	7.00	,,
,,	Rangiyam ...	7.30	

LECTURE CXXXVIII. (*Batch 3*).

20- 3-43	Municipal Office.	6.00	p.m.
21- 3-43	Alangudi ...	7.00	,,
,,	Rasiyamangalam.	7.30	,,
22- 3-43	Annavasal ...	7.00	,,
,,	Kilakkurichchi...	7.30	,,
23- 3-43	Kulipirai ...	7.00	,,
,,	Sevalur ...	7.30	,,
24- 3-43	Ramachandra-puram.	7.00	p.m.
,,	Rayavaram ...	7.30	,,
25- 3-43	Malaiyur ...	7.00	,,
,,	Karambakkudi...	7.30	,,
26- 3-43	Valaramanikkam.	7.00	,,
,,	Embal ...	7.30	,,

RECRUITING—ADVERTISEMENT—4 p. m.

13—3—43	Ponnamaravathi.
14—3—43	Embal.
15—3—43	Konnaiyur.
16—3—43	Ramachandrapuram.
17—3—43	Karambakkudi.
18—3—43	Kilanilai.
19—3—43	Pudukkottai.
20—3—43	Vettamviduthi.
21—3—43	Kodumbalur.
22—3—43	Kiranur.
23—3—43	Kudimiyamalai.
24—3—43	Rayavaram.
25—3—43	Kulipirai.
26—3—43	Pappapatti.

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